

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 17648 231711Z

50

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SR-02 ORM-01 IO-10 DPW-01 /086 W

----- 016683

R 231628Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8763

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 17648

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PFOR VS VT

SUBJECT: VATICAN, VIETNAM AND PACM

REF: SAIGON 15599

1. DRAWING FROM EXCELLENT AND USEFUL MATERIAL IN REFTEL, WE WERE ABLE DEC. 23 TO DISCUSS WITH VATICAN'S DESK OFFICER FOR VIETNAM OUR APPRAISAL OF HOW VIETNAMESE CATHOLIC LEADERS VIEW FR. THANH AND PACM. SOURCE EXPRESSED HIS GRATITUDE FOR OUR INSIGHTS WHICH HE SAID IN VIRTUALLY EVERY DETAIL WITH INFORMATION VATICAN HAS BEEN RECEIVING FROM SAIGON. VATICAN VERY PLEASED THAT VIETNAMESE CHURCHMEN HAVE BY AND LARGE AVOIDED GIVING IMPRESSION THAT CHURCH SUPPORTS OR APPROVES OF PACM. VATICAN STRONGLY SHARES OUR ESTIMATE THAT THANH HAS PASSED ZENITH OF HIS POPULARITY, ESPECIALLY SINCE REVEALING SUPERFICIALITY AND NAIVETE OF HIS POLITICAL BELIEFS.

2. ARCHBISHOP OF SAIGON, NGUYEN VAN BINH, VISITED VATICAN FOR FIRST TIME IN FIVE YEARS AND HAD AUDIENCE WITH POPE PAUL LAST WEEK. HE INFORMED VATICAN OFFICIALS THAT IN HIS VIEW MAIN PROBLEMS FACING SOUTH VIETNAM ARE ECONOMIC. SINCE PARIS ACCORDS DRV HAS BEEN ABLE TO CONCENTRATE ON REBUILDING BUT SOUTH HAS NOT ENJOYED SIMILAR RELIEF FROM WARFARE. VOLPE

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PAGE 02 ROME 17648 231711Z

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CORRUPTION, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, RELIGIOUS LEADERS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 DEC 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974ROME17648  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740373-0174  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 74 SAIGON 15599  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <20 MAR 2003 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

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30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VATICAN, VIETNAM AND PACM  
**TAGS:** PINT, PFOR, VS, VT, PACM  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005